

Message Text

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65

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIA-06 SMI-01 AID-05 /026 W

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R 081110Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3268

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL EG

SUBJ: SMITHSONIAN FOLKLIFE FESTIVAL

REF: CAIRO 6249

1. PAO CALLED ON FIRST UNDER SECRETARY MINCULTURE THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS EGYPTIAN PARTICIPATION SUBJECT FESTIVAL. U/S AGAIN DESCRIBED GOE'S FINANACIAL PLIGHT AND PAO POINTED OUT IMPORTANCE OF EGYPTIAN PARTICPATION. FINALLY, ON BEING INFORMED THAT THE COST WOULD BE CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN THE LE40,000 FIGURE HE TMGVEEN WORKING WITH, THE U/S AGREED THAT THE MINISTRY WOULD SEND AT LEAST 20 DANCERS. HE ADDED THAT IF QUALITY OF PERFORMANCE WOULD SUFFER BY THIS REDUCTION, HE WOULD SEND THE FULL 25. IN EITHER CASE, SOMEONE (PROBABLY FROM THE MINSTRY) WILL ESCORT THEM.

2. PAO EXPLAINED NECESSITY OF PROVIDING FORMAL GOE ACCEPTANCE OF SMITHSONIAN INVIATION AND U/S SAID HE WOULS ASK MFA TO CABLE EGYPTIAN EMBASSY TODAY WITH APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS.

3. U/S ALSO SHOWED PAO LETTER FROM MAGDA SALEH WHICH AMONG OTHER GHINGS, AMD MOST UNHELPFULLY, SUGGESTED THAT MINISTRY MIGHT APPLY FOR PL-480 FUNDS TO COVER TRANSPORTATION. REQUEST THAT MISS SALEH BE ASKED TO DISCUSS SUCH IDEAS

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WITH APPROPRIATE CU AND OR AID OFFICIALS TO

DETERMINE THEIR VIABILITY BEFORE SUGGESTING THEM TO
EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES.

4. COMMENT: U/S DID NOT INDICATE HOW EGYPTIAN GROUP WILL
TRAVEL AND HE MAY STILL BE LOOKING INTO THIS ASPECT.
RATHER THAN USE MISR AIR CHARTER, WE SUSPECT GROUP WILL ULTIMATELY
FLY COMMERCIAL.
EILTS

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